

and is home to The Ohio State University Fine Arts Library. The center welcomes visiting artists to Ohio State and Columbus from around the world. More than 200,000 people visit the center annually and more than 400,000 patrons utilize the online resources.

The Wexner Center provides the central Ohio community with educational and cultural opportunities for all visitors. I congratulate all who were involved in making its first 25 years a success.●

225TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE

● Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, I wish to mark the 225th anniversary of the United States Marshals Service. As America's oldest law enforcement agency, the U.S. Marshals Service has played a unique role in our history, serving our Nation in a variety of ways since 1789. In their 225 years of service, U.S. Marshals have been responsible for protecting the Federal judicial process, securing Federal facilities, and ensuring the safety of court officials: U.S. Marshals are also tasked with a number of law enforcement activities that keep our Nation safe and our judicial proceedings secure on a daily basis.

Operating in over 94 Federal court districts, U.S. Marshals serve with nearly 4,000 Deputy U.S. Marshals and criminal investigators to form the backbone of the agency. All of these individuals have provided a great service to our Nation by carrying out the dangerous and extraordinary missions asked of them by Congress, the President, and Governors.

The first U.S. Marshal for the Colorado Territory was appointed by President Lincoln and began his service on March 25, 1861. Today, the men and women of the U.S. Marshals Service for the District of Colorado maintain their core mission to serve and protect our Federal judiciary. In doing so, the Marshals ensure the survival of one of our Nation's most fundamental democratic principles—the Rule of Law. Marshals continually work together with other Federal, State and local law enforcement agencies to create safer cities and communities around the Nation.

On this anniversary, we must not forget to honor those Marshals who sacrificed their lives in pursuit of justice, integrity, and service. Their legacy of bravery continues with U.S. Marshals serving today. It is my privilege to mark this 225 year milestone with these outstanding and noble Americans. We are greatly indebted to all U.S. Marshals for their service to our Nation.●

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 160TH SOAR OF HUNTER ARMY AIRFIELD

● Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the 3rd Bat-

talion, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, Airborne, of Hunter Army Airfield, marking their 25th anniversary of service in support of this Nation.

Since 1989, the 160th SOAR has served in every major conflict and contingency operation supporting the special operations community and providing world-class special operations aviation support. Supporting Operation Just Cause in Panama, Desert Shield and Desert Storm in the Persian Gulf, and multiple operations in support of crisis management prepared them for their most challenging mission of all, the global war on terrorism.

Over the last 13 years, their battalion of MH-47 Chinooks and MH-60 Black Hawks have been continuously deployed in support of Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom and New Dawn, and throughout the world on numerous unnamed and often unknown missions.

In 2013, the unit flew over 8,000 flying hours in support of ongoing combat operations and training missions to support the special operations community and our allies, including over 4,300 under night vision.

Through fiscal management and lean logistics, the battalion has continued to refine the processes enabling a leaner sustainment package while still maintaining effectiveness in every environment in which the battalion's aircraft operate.

The 160th continues to be at the forefront of Army aviation and foreign internal defense aviation support to our allies.

In tribute to its outstanding service during wartime, its important role in strengthening the security of this Nation, and its support to the special operations community, I am honored today to recognize the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment and its contributions to the United States of America.●

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE LONG AND THE MONTFORD POINT MARINES

● Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I wish today to honor George Long of Vicksburg, MS, a World War II veteran to whom I had the pleasure of presenting the Congressional Gold Medal during the August recess.

Just months after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, 16-year-old George Long bravely volunteered to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps. He was one of the African-American recruits who volunteered for service after President Roosevelt signed an Executive order in 1942 lifting a prohibition against their enlistment.

Mr. Long is part of a group of American warriors known as the Montford Point Marines—those African-American recruits assigned to the segregated basic training facility at Montford Point, adjacent to Camp Lejeune, NC.

Given the magnitude of the threat our country faced in Europe and the

Pacific, President Roosevelt recognized that the status quo of Jim Crow segregation, which at that time prohibited African Americans from serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, would not suffice. In 1941, he signed the historic Executive Order 8802, which required the military to accept recruits regardless of race, creed, color, or national origin. This action would later become a crucial component of the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964 and help bring an end to segregation in the United States.

Approximately 20,000 African-American marines received basic training at Montford Point, before the Marine Corps became fully integrated in 1949. Of those, about 13,000 would serve overseas during World War II. These marines fought valiantly in the fiercest battles of the Pacific island hopping campaign, as allied forces reversed the tide of Imperial expansion. Mr. Long notably served as a guard for Japanese prisoners of war during the legendary Battle of Iwo Jima, where “uncommon valor was a common virtue.”

On November 11, 2011, legislation was enacted granting the Congressional Gold Medal to the Montford Point Marines. This honor—the highest civilian award in the United States—was bestowed on these courageous veterans for their brave and honorable service to our country, despite segregation and other prejudices that were common at the time.

Due to his health, George Long was unable to attend a ceremony at the U.S. Capitol in June 2012 where the Congressional Gold Medal was presented to some 370 of the estimated 420 remaining Montford Point veterans. I am grateful that his daughter Felicia Hawkins and friend Steve Houston worked with my office to ensure that Mr. Long eventually received the medal.

It was an honor to present the Congressional Gold Medal to George Long on August 5 at the G.V. “Sonny” Montgomery Veterans Medical Center in Jackson in recognition of his contributions to our country. Mr. Long and all the Montford Point Marines will be remembered as trailblazers who bravely helped protect our Nation from foreign threats and helped improve our society by bringing about change within our military.●

REMEMBERING COLONEL BERNARD FRANCIS FISHER

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I wish to honor the life of Medal of Honor recipient Col. Bernard Fisher, known as Bernie. He passed away in August after a meaningful and inspiring life, and he leaves behind a legacy of heroic and steady service.

Colonel Fisher, of Kuna, ID, earned the Medal of Honor for putting his life on the line to rescue a fellow pilot downed in enemy-controlled territory during the Vietnam war. According to an Air Force fact sheet, under enemy